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RUEAIIA/CIA RUEAMCC/CMC RUETIAH/DIRN RUEBUGA/COMD RUEOFAA/COMU RUCUAAA/USCI RUCIFBA/MAC	IL 84 IN DC IVOCSA WASHINGTON IWASHINGTON IAVINVSERV W WASHINGTON ICC WASHINGT ISA FT GEORG IT COGARD WA ISOC FT BRAG INCRED MACDI INTEL CEN S	NGTON DC DC DC ASHINGTON DC DC DN DC E G MEADE MD SHINGTON DC//G-DIS-3/G-ICC// G NC//J2// LL AFB FL COTT AFB IL//INW/INZ//		25X1
RUDHAAB/CDRU RUEDAYB/FSTC RUEALGX/SAFE P R O9224OZ FM AMEMBASSY	ASHINGTON D ISAITAC ARLI INTEL OPS UUL 84 LIMA STATE WASHD	C//DAMO-C4Z-S// NGTON HALL STATION VA CHARLOTTESVILLE VA C PRIORITY 6955		

OLL/LD

DIA FOR IR BRANCH

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

PANAMA FOR ADS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR TAGS:PTER, SNAR, PE

RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ 7977 RUESQI/AMEMBASSY QUITO 5909 RUESNA/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 7155 RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA 6243

RUEDEHA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN BT C D N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 8031

SUBJ: TERRORISTS STRIKE AGAIN IN UPPER HUALLAGA

REF: LIMA 5995

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. LATEST IN SERIES OF TERRORIST INCIDENTS IN UPPER HUALLAGA AREA CLAIMED LIVES OF EIGHT GUARDIA CIVIL (GC) AGENTS ON JULY 4. GROUP ESTIMATED AT 70 TO 100 ATTACKED GC POST IN TOWN OF AUCAYACU (DEPARTMENT OF HUANUCO), DESTROYING GC STATION AND MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND KILLING GIVE GC PATROLMEN. ACCORDING TO WORKERS FOR PEAH PROJECT WHO WERE EYEWITNESSES, SOME DOZEN TERRORISTS IN STOLEN GC UINIFORMS INFILTRATED AND GAINED CONTROL OF CENTER OF TOWN, THEN BROUGHT IN AROUND 70 OTHERS, INCLUDING WOMEN. AFTER FIREFIGHT WHICH LEFT UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF TERRORISTS DEAD, ATTACKERS KILLED GC IN

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STATION, INCLUDING TWO UMOPAR PERSONNEL, THEN DESTROYED IT AND MUNICIPAL OFFICES WITH INCENDIARY DEVICES. UNLIKE PREVIOUS INCIDENTS, NO ATTACKS WERE MADE ON LOCAL PEAH OFFICES. (FAMILIES OF PEAH WORKERS HAD BEEN EVACUATED AFTER MAJOR ATTACK JUNE 22 ON TOCACHE (REFTEL)). EYEWITNESSES STATE THAT ATTACKERS TALKED AMONG THEMSELVES WITH STRONG ANCASH OR AYACUCHO ACCENTS AND DID NOT GIVE IMPRESSION OF BEING FAMILIAR WITH AREA. LOCAL PEAH HEAD BELIEVES THESE ATTACKERS WERE HIRED MERCENARIES TRYING TO DESTROY NEWLY-STRENGTHENED POLICE PRESENCE IN HUALLAGA AT BEHEST OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS. WE DO NOT EXCLUDE, HOWEVER, POSSIBILITY THAT THEY WERE RECENT IMMIGRANTS TO AREA.

- 3. AT APPROXIMATELY SAME TIME, POLICE VAN ABOUT 30 KM NORTH OF TINGO MARIA SLID INTO PACAE RIVER WHILE RESPONDING TO ATTACKERS, AND UMOPAR OFFICER AND TWO AGENTS IN VAN WERE DROWNED.
- 4. THESE INCIDENTS FOLLOW ON HEELS OF "OPERATION PIRANA", GC SWEEP OF TOCACHE, AUCAYACU AND NUEVO PROGRESO AREA MOUNTED IN RESPONSE TO LAST ROUND OF ATTACKS.
 GC ARRESTED 64 EN AND 13 WOMEN SUSPECTED OF COMPLICITY IN PRIOR ATTACKS, WHO WERE JAILED AT TINGO MARIA AND HUANUCO. COMMENT: SINCE THOSE JAILS ARE NOTORIOUSLY POROUS, THIS PRESENTS NO GUARANTEE THAT SUSPECTS WILL REMAIN CUSTODY LONG. END COMMENT. SOME SUSPECTS HAVE ALREADY ADMITTED COMPLICITY IN ATTACKS, OTHERS WILL ADMIT TO NO MORE THAN MEMBERSHIP IN LOCAL "POPULAR COMMITTEE OF HOPE," CHARACTERIZED BY GC AS SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATION.
- 5. DURING VISIT OF CODEL HAWKSIN, PRIME MINISTER MARIATEGUI AND INTERIOR MINISTER PERCOVICH TOLD AMBASSADOR JUMBAN AND SENATOR HAWKINS THAT GOP IS ABOUT TO ISSUE SUPREME DECREE SENDING ARMY TROOPS TO THE UPPER HUALLAGA VALLEY TO REINFORCE POLICE THERE. PERCOVICH SAID THAT UP TO 1,000 SECURITY PERSONNEL WOULD BE SENT. THE ARMY TROOPS APPARENTLY WILL BE USED PRIMARILY TO REINFORCE THE POLICE; THE LATTER WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY THE MAJOR ROLE IN RE-ESTABLISHING A GREATER MEASURE OF LAW AND ORDER TO THE VALLEY. TEXT OF DECREE WILL BE SENT BY SEPTEL. JORDAN END OF MESSAGE CONFIDENTIAL